UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/607
29 November 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 86

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Allan BREIER-CASTRO (Venezuela)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 19th to 23rd meetings, from 13 to 16 November 1995 (see A/C.4/50/SR.19-23).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (A/50/230);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on improving preparedness for conflict prevention and peace-keeping in Africa (A/50/711-S/1995/911);

(c) Letters dated 29 March 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/875-S/1995/235 and A/49/876-S/1995/236);

(d) Letter dated 7 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/886-S/1995/276);

(e) Letter dated 12 April 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/137-S/1995/295);

(f) Letter dated 8 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Delhi Declaration issued at the eighth meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, held at New Delhi from 2 to 4 May 1995 (A/50/215-S/1995/475);

(g) Letter dated 19 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final documents of the summit meeting of the group of seven major industrialized countries, held at Halifax, Canada, from 15 to 17 June 1995 (A/50/254-S/1995/254);

(h) Letter dated 11 September 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/437).

4. At the 19th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Canada, in his capacity as Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee for Peace-keeping Operations, introduced the report of that Committee.

5. At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations made a statement.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.4/50/L.10

6. At the 19th meeting, on 13 November, in the course of his introductory statement, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Egypt, Japan, Nigeria and Poland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects" (A/C.4/50/L.10).

7. At the 23rd meeting, on 16 November, the representative of Canada, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised the draft resolution by inserting a new eighth preambular paragraph, which read:

> "Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on improving preparedness for conflict prevention and peace-keeping in Africa and the recommendations therein, which should be considered further in consultation with the Organization of African Unity".

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.10, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 9).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

9. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolution 49/37 of 9 December 1994,

Affirming, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peace-keeping operations, are indispensable,

Stressing the important role played by peace-keeping operations in maintaining international peace and security, and recognizing the need to ensure the safety of United Nations peace-keepers,

Taking note of the section on peace-keeping of the position paper of the Secretary-General, Supplement to an agenda for peace, 1/ and of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995, 2/

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, 3/

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the command and control of United Nations peace-keeping operations, 4/

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on improving preparedness for conflict prevention and peace-keeping in Africa 5/ and the

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1/ A/50/60-S/1995/1.

2/ S/PRST/1995/9.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/50/1).

4/ A/49/681.

5/ A/50/711-S/1995/911.

recommendations therein, which should be considered further in consultation with the Organization of African Unity,

Taking note of the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations expressed by many Member States, including troop-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Committee,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peace-keeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peace-keeping missions,

Taking note in this regard of the various proposals and views regarding United Nations peace-keeping put forward during the Special Commemorative Meeting and the general debate at the present session of the General Assembly,

1. Welcomes the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations; 6/

2. Endorses the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Committee contained in paragraphs 35 to 93 of its report;

3. Urges Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Committee;

4. Recommends that, should any of the proposals contained in the present resolution result in budgetary implications for the bienniums 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, such additional costs be accommodated within the appropriation levels approved by the General Assembly for those bienniums, in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the Organization;

5. Decides that the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects; the Committee should review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. Requests the Committee to consider the expansion of its membership, analysing all available options, invites its chairman to consult with interested States and requests the Committee to submit specific recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

7. Also requests the Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

6/ A/50/230.

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".